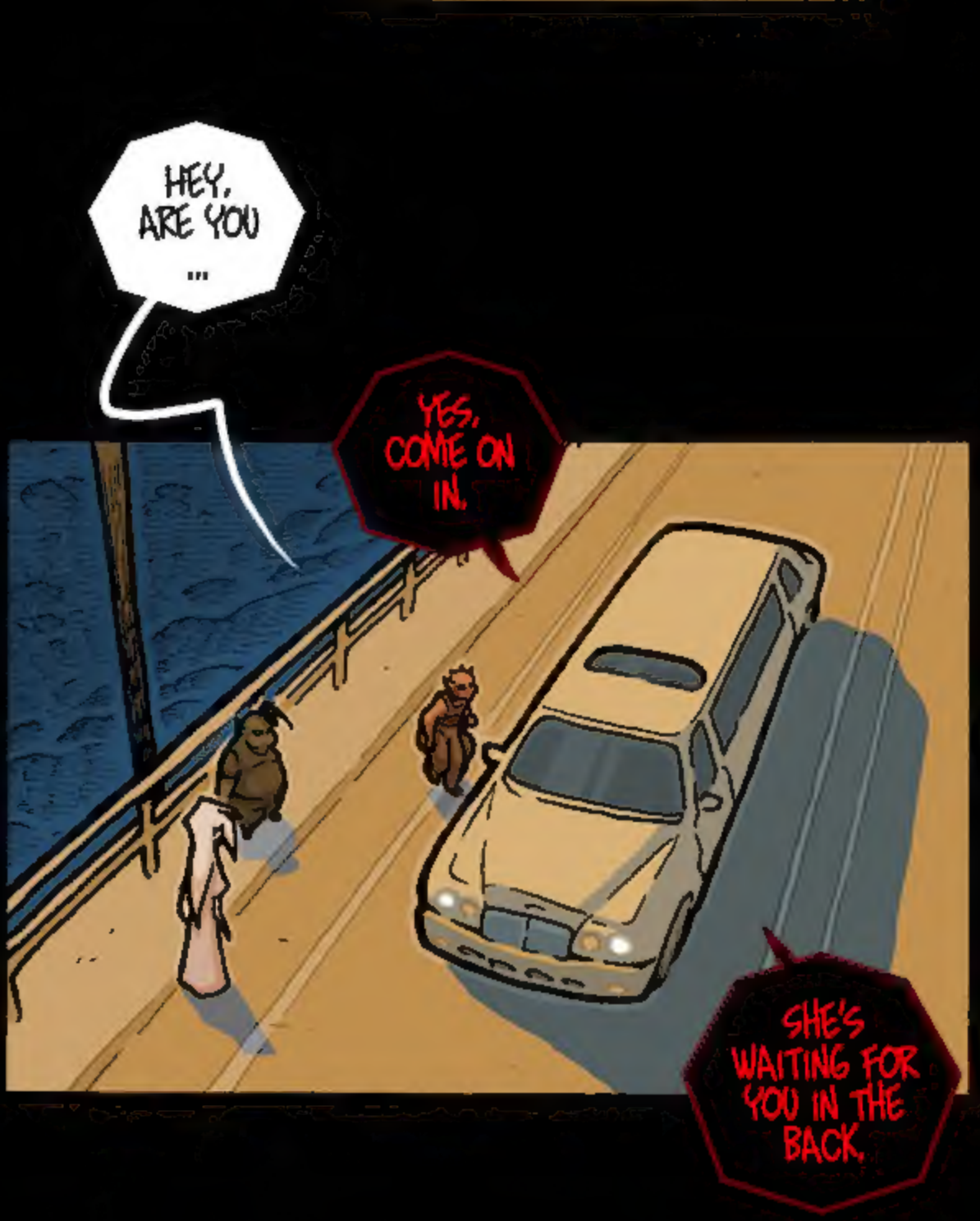
APOCALYPTIC HORSEPLAY

BY BOREDMAN

WHERE THE HELL ARE THEY?
HELL INDEED MY FRIEND.
DON'T WORRY, THEY'LL BE HERE.
DO WE HAVE TO WAIT OUTSIDE? I DON'T LIKE WHAT THIS NIGHT AIR IS DOING TO MY SKIN.
YES, AND I DON'T LIKE SURPRISES.
NOW WHY AREN'T YOU TELLING US WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO...
SHH! HERE THEY COME.


HEY, ARE YOU ...
YES, COME ON IN.
SHE'S WAITING FOR YOU IN THE BACK.

HATRED! GOOD TO SEE YOU AGAIN.

I SEE YOU'VE ALREADY GATHERED YOUR FRIENDS.

WOULD YOU BE SO KIND AS TO INTRODUCE US?

WITH PLEASURE, MA'AM.

HUNGER, FEVER. THIS IS LUCY.

OUR INTERMEDIARY WITH THE BIG MAN HIMSELF.

CHARMED, I'M SURE.

MR. D CHARGED ME TO CONVEY HIS UTMOST ADMIRATION FOR ALL YOUR HARD WORK IN THE PAST FEW YEARS.

WE'RE DELIGHTED TO BE WORKING WITH SUCH FINE TROUBLE-MAKERS.

WOW NOW. HOLD YOUR...

I MEAN ...

NOT SO FAST, LADY!

HATRED MIGHT BE ONBOARD WITH YOUR LITTLE SCHEME, BUT WE STILL HAVE NO IDEA WHAT THIS IS ALL ABOUT.

YEAH. WHAT IS IT YOU WANT FROM US?

OH, THAT'S EASY.

AS YOU KNOW, YOUR FORMER MASTERS THE HORSEMEN HAD PREVIOUSLY DECIDED NOT TO FULFILL THEIR ESSENTIAL ROLE IN MR. D'S GRAND DESIGN.

EVER SINCE THEN, HE AND I HAVE BEEN LOOKING FOR A WAY TO REPLACE THEM AND GET EVERYTHING BACK ON TRACK. AND AS IT SO HAPPENS ...

YOU ALL POSSESS MOST OF THEIR POWERS.

WELL YEAH, BUT WE'RE NOT AS STRONG.

PEOPLE CAN SEE US.

AND EVEN IN RETIREMENT, THE HORSEMEN STILL CHANNEL MOST OF OUR CHAOTIC ENERGIES THEIR WAY.

WE'D NEVER BE ABLE TO DO WHAT THEY DID.

SHH. LET HER FINISH. WE'RE GETTING TO THE GOOD PART.

INDEED YOU'RE NOT.

AS LONG AS THEY'RE AROUND, YOU COULD NEVER HOPE TO BE AS POWERFUL AS YOUR MAKERS.

BUT WITH OUR HELP, PERHAPS YOU COULD MAKE IT SO THEY'RE NOT AROUND ANYMORE.

YOU MEAN... KILL THEM?

WE COULD DO THAT?

CERTAINLY. GRANTED WE WOULD HAVE HAD A BETTER CHANCE WITH ALL FOUR OF YOU ON THE JOB. BUT...

HATRED TELLS ME THE PALE HORSE STILL CANNOT BE FOUND.

SO WHAT'S THE RELATIONSHIP HERE? ARE YOU OUR PARTNERS? OUR EMPLOYERS?

JUST THINK OF US AS YOUR NEW PATRON.

A SPONSOR. IF YOU LIKE.

I... I DON'T KNOW IF I CAN DO THAT.

PESTILENCE WAS ALWAYS GOOD TO ME.

I DON'T WANNA HAVE TO...

PESTILENCE TURNED ON US.

THEY ALL DID. RE-MEMBER?

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT YOU. BUT I'VE BEEN LIVING IN THE SHADOWS LONG ENOUGH.
I SAY IT'S ABOUT TIME WE RECLAIMED OUR DESTINY.